

THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS
RESOLUTION 24-17

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOREST
HEIGHTS, MARYLAND APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF THREE (3) NEW
ETHICS COMMISSIONERS & AN ALTERNATE**

Introduced By: Mayor Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad

WHEREAS, during the 2010 legislative session, the General Assembly of Maryland enacted legislation mandating required changes in local ethics ordinances that include: (1) adopting conflict of interest and financial disclosure provisions for elected municipal officials that are equivalent to or exceed the State's, (2) requiring that local elected officials must file a financial disclosure statement complying with said provisions, (3) requiring the local ethics commission to certify to the State Ethics Commission on or before October 1 of each year that the municipal corporation is in compliance with the requirements for elected local officials, and (4) requiring that candidates for election also must comply with the financial disclosure requirements of the law; and

WHEREAS, in January, 2013, the State Ethics Commission reviewed an ethics ordinance exemption request submitted on behalf of the Town and thereby granted the Town a partial exemption from the requirement to adopt lobbying provisions as part of the local ethics law, and as a result of said Commission's determination, the Town's previously, voluntarily-enacted ethics ordinance found in Article 14 of the Town Code was amended to comply with State law and is further subject to periodic review by the State Ethics Commission; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 14.3 of the Town Ordinance Code, as amended, there is now a Town of Forest Heights Ethics Commission that shall consist of three (3) members appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council and notwithstanding anything in Article 21 of the Town Code to the contrary, the Ethics Commissioners shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and Council and shall otherwise be further governed by this Article 14 and Article 21 of the Town Code.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 21.2.C(6) of the Town Ordinance Code, the Council hereby finds that the appointees meet the qualifications for office prescribed by law; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, and enacted that the Town Council hereby approves and ratifies the appointment of the following individuals as Ethics Commissioners to serve for a one (1) year term as prescribed by Section 21.2 of the Town Ordinance Code or until their successors are duly appointed: 1.) Ms. Mary Burnett, 2.) Ms. Darlene Kuny, 3.) Ms. Lucita Alvarado and Ms. Catherine Clark as an alternate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above-named appointees shall subscribe to and be administered by the Mayor the oath of office for the office of Ethics Commissioner pursuant to Section 33-84 of the Town Charter; and

THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS
RESOLUTION 24-17

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that newly appointed Ethics Commissioner Ms. Mary Burnett is hereby appointed to serve as Chair of the Commission unless and until the Commission votes to name a successor Chair; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Subsections 21.2.C(8) and 21.2.I(2) of the Town Ordinance Code, Councilperson _____, shall be assigned to coordinate with said body and shall assist, as needed, in drafting the agenda, scheduling meetings, and in the preparation and distribution of meeting materials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

PASSED this 19th day of April 2017.

APPROVED: By Resolution of the Town Council of The Town of Forest Heights, Maryland

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YEA/NAY/ABSTAIN/ABSENT</u>
MUHAMMAD	<u>YEA</u>
KENNEDY II	<u>YEA</u>
MCLAURIN	<u>YEA</u>
BARNES	<u>YEA</u>
HINES	<u>YEA</u>
SMITH-BARNES	<u>YEA</u>
BROWNSON	<u>YEA</u>

ATTEST:

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

SIGNATURE ON FILE

Bonita Anderson, Town Clerk

SIGNATURE ON FILE

By: _____
Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad, Mayor

SIGNATURE ON FILE

By: _____
Jonathon Kennedy II, Council President

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify, as the duly appointed Town Clerk of the Town of Forest Heights, Maryland, that on the 19th day of April 2017 with 7 Aye votes and 0 Nay votes the aforesaid Resolution 24-17 passed.

SIGNATURE ON FILE

Bonita Anderson, Town Clerk